

ClaimsWhat is claimed is:

- 1 1. In a computer controlled user interactive display  
2 system, a display interface implementation for enabling  
3 an interactive user to select specific items on a display  
4 screen comprising:  
5       user controlled means for moving an on-screen  
6 pointer to approach said selectable items;  
7       means for providing a scope of display screen area  
8 adjacent said moving pointer within which scope said  
9 items are enabled for user selection; and  
10      means for enabling a user to interactively modify  
11 said scope of said moving pointer.
- 1 2. The display system of claim 1 wherein said items are  
2 icons.
- 1 3. The display system of claim 2 wherein said scope may  
2 be modified without changing the image of said pointer.
- 1 4. The display system of claim 3 wherein said scope may  
2 be modified by changing the geometric configuration of  
3 the scope.
- 1 5. The display system of claim 3 wherein said scope may  
2 be modified by changing the size of the scope.
- 1 6. The display system of claim 3 wherein said scope may  
2 be modified by changing the position of the scope.

1 7. The display system of claim 3 wherein said scope is  
2 circular.

1 8. The display system of claim 3 wherein said scope is  
2 rectilinear.

1 9. A method for enabling an interactive user to select  
2 specific items on a display screen in computer controlled  
3 user interactive display systems comprising:  
4       moving an on-screen pointer to approach said  
5 selectable items;  
6       providing a scope of display screen area adjacent  
7 said moving pointer within which scope said items are  
8 enabled for user selection; and  
9       enabling a user to interactively modify said scope  
10 of said moving pointer.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein said items are icons.

1 11. The method of claim 10 wherein said scope may be  
2 modified without changing the image of said pointer.

1 12. The method of claim 11 further including the steps  
2 of  
3       displaying the scope of the moving pointer on said  
4 display screen prior to modification; and  
5       removing said scope from the display screen after  
6 any modification.

1 13. The method of claim 12 wherein said scope may be  
2 modified by changing the geometric configuration of the  
3 scope.

1 14. The method of claim 12 wherein said scope may be  
2 modified by changing the size of the scope.

1 15. The method of claim 12 wherein said scope may be  
2 modified by changing the position of the scope.

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1 16. The method of claim 12 wherein said scope is  
2 circular.

1 17. The method of claim 12 wherein said scope is  
2 rectilinear.

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1    18. A computer program having program code included on a  
2    computer readable medium for enabling an interactive user  
3    to select specific items on a display screen in a  
4    computer controlled user interactive display system  
5    comprising:

6         user controlled means for moving an on-screen  
7    pointer to approach said selectable items;

8         means for providing a scope of display screen area  
9    adjacent said moving pointer within which scope said  
10   items are enabled for user selection; and

11        means for enabling a user to interactively modify  
12   said scope of said moving pointer.

1    19. The computer program of claim 18 wherein said items  
2    are icons.

1    20. The computer program of claim 19 wherein said scope  
2    may be modified without changing the image of said  
3    pointer.

1    21. The computer program of claim 20 wherein said scope  
2    may be modified by changing the geometric configuration  
3    of the scope.

1    22. The computer program of 20 wherein said scope may be  
2    modified by changing the size of the scope.

1    23. The computer program of 20 wherein said scope may be  
2    modified by changing the position of the scope.

1    24. The computer program of claim 20 wherein said scope  
2    is circular.

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1 25. The computer program of claim 20 wherein said scope  
2 is rectilinear.